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17th April, 1959.COCOM Doc. No. 3491RCOORDINATING COMMITTEERECORD OF DISCUSSION

S/TO 69(1)

ONPROPOSED ITALIAN EXPORT OF BEARINGS TO THE SOVIET UNION13th April, 1959

Present: Belgium(Luxembourg), Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States.

References: COCOM Documents Nos. 3360, 3370 and 3405.

1. The UNITED STATES Delegate referred to the Italian Delegation's Memorandum submitted on the 10th January 1959 (COCOM Document No. 3360) and proposing the export to the Soviet Union of 4 spherical roller bearings. He stated that his Government had reconsidered the matter in the light of further information given by the Italian Delegation, and that they were now prepared to withdraw their objection to this export. The Delegate pointed out however that this case had been considered by his Government as an ad hoc exception request, because they did not believe that the submission of the latter met the requirements of the de minimis procedure. He added that his Delegation would wish to examine closely in future all requests for exceptions involving large-size roller bearings.
2. The JAPANESE Delegate stated that his Government had also re-examined the proposed Italian exception case put forward in COCOM Doc. No. 3360 on the basis of the additional information supplied by the Italian Delegation. They had now come to the conclusion that the security risk involved in this case was not significant and had decided to withdraw their objection.
3. The ITALIAN Delegate thanked both the United States and Japanese Delegates, and stated that he was particularly grateful to their authorities for having reassessed their position in the light of the various elements submitted by his Delegation. He was also grateful to the United States Delegation for not raising any objection purely on procedural grounds, although he had taken note of the United States Delegate's statement on the de minimis procedure.. The Delegate explained that the case had been submitted under the de minimis procedure both because of its strategic value and from the point of view of its financial value. The Italian Government believed that both were minimal and had not therefore considered a special ad hoc procedure. They had also taken into account the various statements made during the discussions on the Minimum Shipments Procedure, during which it had seemed to the Italian Delegation that, in general, the Committee was in favour of enlarging that procedure in order to cover not only financial but mainly strategic considerations. The Delegate would in any case refer the United States Delegation's observations to his authorities.
4. The CHAIRMAN noted that, with the statements just made by the Japanese and United States Delegations, there were no longer any objections to the Italian request, which had thus been settled.

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